



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Arkansas Catfish Production Report
Released January 29, 2010



Cooperating with the University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture
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This report contains the results from the *Catfish Growers Survey* conducted during the first half of January, 2010. The data are posted on our Web site at http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Arkansas/Publications/Statistical_Bulletin/Catfish/index.asp and in a more detailed report at the Internet address above. Thanks to all who responded to the questionnaire or interview for this survey.

Foodsize Catfish Inventory Down 29 Percent

Arkansas catfish producers had 31.9 million foodsize fish on January 1, 2010, down 29 percent from a year ago. The number of large foodsize fish on hand totaled 1.19 million, down 8 percent from January 1, 2009. Medium foodsize inventory, at 11.3 million, was down 21 percent from last year, while small foodsize, at 19.4 million, was down 34 percent from January 1, 2009. Arkansas catfish growers had sales of \$44.9 million during 2009, down 30 percent from 2008.

Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, Arkansas, January 1, 2009-2010

Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	% Change from '09	2009	2010	% Change from '09	2009 ¹	2010
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish	
Broodfish	70	50	- 29	352	212	- 40	5.0	4.2
All Foodsize	44,890	31,890	- 29	63,550	45,700	- 28	-	-
Large	1,290	1,190	- 8	4,550	4,300	- 5	3.5	3.6
Medium	14,300	11,300	- 21	28,100	21,700	- 23	2.0	1.9
Small	29,300	19,400	- 34	30,900	19,700	- 36	1.1	1.0
							Pounds per 1,000 Fish	
All Stockers	65,600	52,200	- 20	16,050	10,800	- 33	-	-
Large	27,500	19,100	- 31	11,400	7,550	- 34	415	395
Small	38,100	33,100	- 13	4,650	3,250	- 30	122.0	98.2
Fingerlings	74,700	44,200	- 41	3,000	1,700	- 43	40.2	38.5

¹ Revised.

Catfish: Inventory and Live Weight by Type and Size, U.S., January 1, 2009-2010

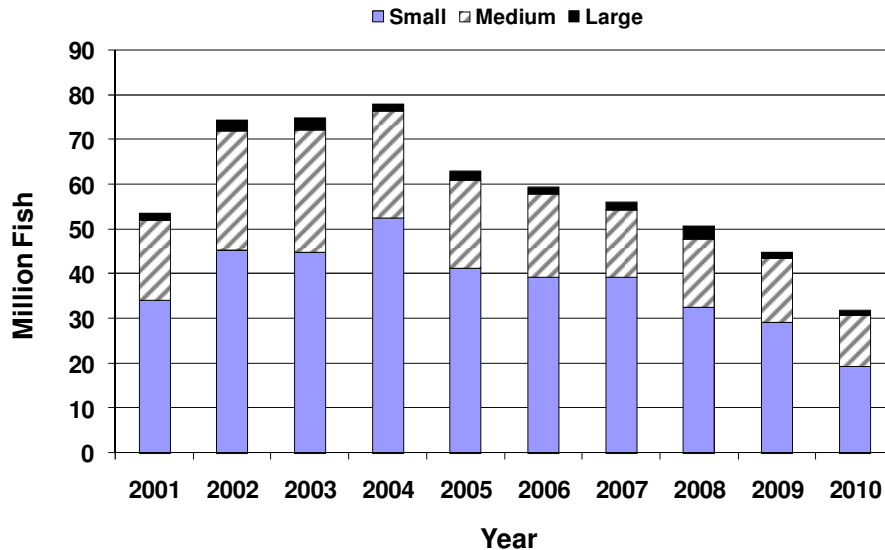
Type & Size	Number			Total Live Weight			Average Live Weight	
	2009	2010	% Change from '09	2009	2010	% Change from '09	2009 ¹	2010
	1,000 Fish			1,000 Pounds			Pounds per Fish	
Broodfish	704	544	- 23	3,540	2,948	- 17	5.0	5.4
All Foodsize	308,796	268,780	- 13	445,999	375,882	- 16	-	-
Large	9,316	8,570	- 8	32,696	29,712	- 9	3.5	3.5
Medium	105,610	91,590	- 13	210,880	175,250	- 17	2.0	1.9
Small	193,870	168,620	- 13	202,423	170,920	- 16	1.0	1.0
							Pounds per 1,000 Fish	
All Stockers	586,069	365,370	- 38	136,571	87,711	- 36	-	-
Large	258,640	152,190	- 41	101,336	66,495	- 34	392	437
Small	327,429	213,180	- 35	35,235	21,216	- 40	107.6	99.5
Fingerlings	728,340	429,590	- 41	22,680	15,045	- 34	31.1	35.0

¹ Revised.

Definitions Used for Catfish Production

- Broodfish: Fish kept for egg production, including males, 3 to 10 lbs., or 4 to 6 years of age.
- Large foodsize: Over 3 lbs. per fish.
- Medium foodsize: 1 ½ to 3 lbs. per fish.
- Small foodsize: ¾ to 1 ½ lbs. per fish.
- Large Stockers: 180 to 750 lbs. per 1,000 fish.
- Small Stockers: 60 to 180 lbs. per 1,000 fish or over 6" in length.
- Fingerlings: 2 to 60 lbs. per 1,000 fish or 2" to 6" in length.

Arkansas Foodsize Catfish Inventory by Size, January 1, 2001-2010



Catfish: Sales by Size Category, Arkansas, 2008-2009

Size Category	Number		Live Weight Sold				Average Price per Pound		Total Sales	
			Average Weight		Total					
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	1,000 Fish		Pounds per Fish		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		1,000 Dollars	
Foodsize	51,100	31,200	1.6	1.9	83,700	58,100	0.75	0.74	62,775	42,994
Fingerlings	52,300	29,100	Pounds per 1,000 Fish		453	272	1.68	1.99	761	541
Total	103,400*	60,300*	-	-	84,153*	58,372*	-	-	64,263**	44,914**

* Broodfish and stockers not included.

**Total sales include broodfish and stockers.

Catfish: Water Surface Acres, Arkansas and U.S., January 1, 2009-2010

Item	Unit	Arkansas			United States		
		2009	2010	% Change from '09	2009	2010	% Change from '09
Water Surface Used for Catfish Production ¹	Acres	25,000	19,200	- 23	146,900	114,800	- 22
For Foodsize	Acres	21,300	16,600	- 22	120,600	96,700	- 20
For Fingerlings	Acres	2,800	2,200	- 21	18,430	14,210	- 23
For Broodfish	Acres	250	250	-	2,700	2,240	- 17

¹ During January 1 to June 30. Current year data for intended utilization.